

**Press Release Date:
September 30, 2015**

**Contact: Kathryn H. Gabhart
(502) 564-7954
Katie.gabhart@ky.gov**

FRANKFORT, KY – At its meeting today the Executive Branch Ethics Commission presented Rep. Tanya Pullin, District 98, with its prestigious Livingston Taylor Ethics Award for the 2013-2015 biennium. The Commission established this biennial award program to recognize individuals, programs, or agencies within the executive branch of state government for their outstanding achievement and contributions in promoting the ethical conduct of executive branch employees.

Rep. Pullin was awarded for her ceaseless efforts to ensure passage of the Commission's legislation for the past two sessions of the General Assembly. Rep. Pullin has been an advocate for the mission of the Commission, working long hours with Commission staff and the Governor's office to ensure the legislation was designed to not only survive scrutiny, but to make the legislation impactful in promoting ethical government and supporting the undertaking of the Commission. Rep. Pullin has worked behind the scenes to increase awareness of the Commission's mission and to rally support for the Commission's requested reforms. It is therefore only fitting that she receives this award.

Previous recipients of the award include Robert D. Vance, former Secretary of the Public Protection Cabinet, for demonstrating the highest level of ethical standards in both management philosophy and daily operations of the Cabinet; Crit Luallen, former Auditor of Public Accounts, for her non-partisan service in that office for two terms, during which time she developed a reputation as a diligent investigator of fraud and corruption across the Commonwealth; Jill LeMaster, retired Executive Director of the Executive Branch Ethics Commission, for her tireless and unceasing work to promote ethics in state government during her tenure, with fairness and impartiality; and the Transportation Cabinet's Office of Inspector General, for its commitment to promoting ethics in state government as demonstrated by its integrity and dedication to duty in the face of adversity.

The award is named in honor of Livingston Taylor, a former investigative reporter for the Courier –Journal, who wrote many articles on state government throughout his 26 year tenure,

and who, upon his retirement, served as the Commission's first chairman from 1992 -1995. Mr. Taylor was responsible for the early direction of the Commission and donated a considerable amount of time and effort in leading the Commission. He set the tone for the Commission with his concern that the Commission be politically independent and show no favoritism. His dedication to promoting the ethical conduct of executive branch employees will long be remembered.

Rep. Pullin represents part of Boyd County and all of Greenup County. She has a bachelor's degree and JD from the University of Kentucky, a Masters from Duke University, and certifications from Uppsala University. Rep. Pullin is a UK Fellow, a Governor's Cup Quick Recall Moderator, is an Honorary Guardsmen in the KY National Guard, and a member of the Kiwanis Club. She is on the UK Law Alumni Board. She has received the following awards: St Paul Award for Community Service, the Kentucky Court of Justice Law Day Award, the Eastern Kentucky Women in Leadership Award, the Fraternal Order of Police Appreciation Award, the George Washington University Elliot Fellowship, the UK College of Agriculture Outstanding Achievement Alumni Award, the Patrick Henry Award for Support of National Guard, the UK College of Human Environmental Sciences Hall of Fame, the American Legion Legislative Award for Support of Veterans, the Guardian of Small Business Award, the US Department of Defense Award for Leadership on Public Policy Affecting Service Members and their Families, the Marine Corps League Distinguished Citizen Award, the Friend of Kentucky Cities Award, the SLC STAR Transforming Government Award, and the Goodwill Industries of KY Extra Mile Award.